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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/626,412

07/24/2003

Daniel B. Gibbs

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01/13/2006

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EXAMINER

CHAPMAN, JEANETTE E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3635

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/626,412

Applicant(s)

GIBBS, DANIEL B.

Examiner

Chapman E. Jeanette

Art Unit

3635

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/24/06</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-24 (is/are) rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by Eicher, III (55340095) in view of Schworer (5653415) and Smith (Re. 32,815) Eicher, III discloses an apparatus for setting and maintaining the dimensions of a door frame comprising:

1. a first head plate 18
2. a first arm 22 connected to the first head plate
3. a second head plate 18
4. a second arm connected to the second plate
5. the second arm being adjustably engageable with said first arm
6. the first head plate includes a facing edge defining a notch, adjacent element 34, in a side opposite said connection to the first arm
7. the second head plate includes a facing edge defining a notch, adjacent element 34, in a side opposite said connection to the second arm
8. the first head plate includes a positioning finger 30 extending outward from a side of the facing edge in a direction opposite said connection to the first arm
9. the second head plate includes a positioning finger 30 extending outward from a side of said facing edge in a direction opposite said connection to the second ar

Eicher III lacks the plurality of indexing apertures on the first and second arm. Eicher III also lacks the adjustment mechanism associated with the first and second arm and the adjustment mechanism being retractably engageable with the plurality of indexing apertures for locking said first arm in a plurality of positions relative to the second arm and the positions allowing the apparatus to be used with door frames having a plurality of dimensions. Eicher uses a different adjustment mechanism. Schworer discloses a setting apparatus with two arms including a plurality of indexing apertures. Smith discloses a support apparatus with the adjustment mechanism 58, figure 4/6 associated with the first and second arm 32/38 and the adjustment mechanism being retractably engageable with the plurality of indexing apertures 46 for locking said first arm in a plurality of positions relative to the second arm.

Schworer and Smith each teach arms with measuring indicia, 9 and 64, respectively. The indexing apertures on both references are diametrically opposed pairs. Smith and Schworer each discloses a first arm which is telescopically engaged with said second arm; the first and second arms comprising first and second hollow arms having first and second ends. Smith specifically discloses first and second arms including a pair of diametrically opposed apertures defined transversely therethrough and the adjustment mechanism disposed between said pair of diametrically opposed apertures; at least a portion of the mechanism being biased to retractively extend through the opposed apertures and retractively engage said apertures.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Eicher III to include an alternative adjustment means incorporating indexing apertures in order to measure and set specific door frame sizes as shown by the two secondary references to lock the measurements in

Art Unit: 3635

place as shown by Smith. The spacing or the measuring scale employed has been considered a matter of choice. One of ordinary skill in the art would have appreciated any scale which would enable the apparatus to be employed as intended.

Regarding the method claim: Eicher III discloses a method for setting a door frame comprising the steps of:

- Positioning and anchoring a first sidewall of the door frame to a surface
100/102/104
- Abutting the first and second header plate 18 of the door frame setter against the first side wall of the door frame
- Extending the setter apparatus to a precise, predetermined length and as modified by the secondary references, extending the apparatus in accordance with the measuring indicia
- Anchoring the second sidewall of the door frame to the surface; the second side wall being positioned at a precise separation from the first wall as established by the setter apparatus; see abstract

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chapman E Jeanette whose telephone number is 571-272-6841.

The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri, 8:30-6:00, every other fri. off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Friedman Carl can be reached on 571-272-6842. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3635

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Jeanette S. Chapman
Primary Examiner

Jeanette S. Chapman
Primary Examiner